What is claimed:

1. A method of processing a x-ray image, comprising:

collecting a first x-ray image and a second x-ray image;

5 determining a composite image based on the first and second x-ray

images;

collecting a third x-ray image; and

adjusting the third x-ray image based on the composite image.

10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first, second, and third x-ray images

are generated in a sequence.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the first, second, and third x-ray images

each contains an image of at least a portion of an animal body.

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4. The method of claim 1, wherein the determining a composite image

comprises performing a image averaging on the first and second x-ray images.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the image averaging is performed using a

20 boxcar averaging technique.

6.   The method of claim 4, wherein the image averaging is performed based on a weighted average.

7.   The method of claim 1, wherein the adjusting comprises subtracting the composite image from the third x-ray image.

8.   A system for processing a x-ray image, comprising:

means for collecting a first x-ray image and a second x-ray image;

means for determining a composite image based on the first and second x-ray images;

means for collecting a third x-ray image; and

means for adjusting the third x-ray image based on the composite image.

9.   The system of claim 8, wherein the means for determining a composite image comprises means for performing an image averaging on the first and second x-ray images.

10.   The system of claim 8, wherein the means for adjusting comprises means for subtracting the composite image from the third x-ray image.

11.   A computer readable medium having a set of stored instructions, the execution of which causes a process to be performed, the process comprising:

collecting a first x-ray image and a second x-ray image;

determining a composite image based on the first and second x-ray images;

collecting a third x-ray image; and

5   adjusting the third x-ray image based on the composite image.

12.   The computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the first, second, and third x-ray images are generated in a sequence.

10   13.   The computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the first, second, and third x-ray images each contains an image of at least a portion of an animal body.

14.   The computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the determining a

15   composite image comprises performing an image averaging on the first and second x-ray images.

15.   The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein the image averaging is performed using a boxcar averaging technique.

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16.   The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein the image averaging is performed based on a weighted average.

17. The computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the adjusting comprises subtracting the composite image from the third x-ray image.

5 18. A method of processing a x-ray image, comprising:

collecting one or more x-ray images;

determining a composite image based on the one or more x-ray images;

collecting an input x-ray image; and

enhancing a feature of the input x-ray image based on the composite

10 image.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the collecting the one or more x-ray images comprises generating the one or more x-ray images in a sequence.

15 20. The method of claim 18, wherein the input x-ray image contains an image of at least a portion of an animal body.

21. The method of claim 18, wherein the determining a composite image comprises performing an image averaging on the one or more x-ray images.

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22. The method of claim 21, wherein the image averaging is performed using a boxcar averaging technique.

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23. The method of claim 21, wherein the image averaging is performed based on a weighted average.

5 24. The method of claim 18, wherein the enhancing comprises subtracting the composite image from the input x-ray image.

25. A system for processing an image, comprising:

        means for collecting one or more x-ray images;

10   means for determining a composite image based on the one or more x-ray images;

        means for collecting an input x-ray image; and

        means for enhancing a feature of the input x-ray image based on the composite image.

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26. The system of claim 25, wherein the means for determining a composite image comprises means for performing an image averaging on the one or more x-ray images.

20 27. The system of claim 25, wherein the means for enhancing comprises means for subtracting the composite image from the input x-ray image.

28. A computer readable medium having a set of stored instructions, the execution of which causes a process to be performed, the process comprising:

collecting one or more x-ray images;

determining a composite image based on the one or more x-ray images;

5 collecting an input x-ray image; and

enhancing a feature of the input x-ray image based on the composite image.

29. The computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein the collecting the

10 one or more images comprises generating the one or more x-ray images in a sequence.

30. The computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein the input x-ray image contains an image of at least a portion of an animal body.

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31. The computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein the determining a composite image comprises performing an image averaging on the one or more x-ray images.

20 32. The computer readable medium of claim 31, wherein the image averaging is performed using a boxcar averaging technique.

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33. The computer readable medium of claim 31, wherein the image averaging is performed based on a weighted average.

34. The computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein the enhancing

5   comprises subtracting the composite image from the input x-ray image.

35. A method of processing a x-ray image, comprising:

    obtaining a first x-ray image;

    obtaining a second x-ray image; and

10   determining a composite image based on at least a portion of the first and second x-ray images.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein the first and second x-ray images are generated in a sequence.

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37. The method of claim 35, wherein the first and second x-ray images each contains an image of at least a portion of an animal body.

38. The method of claim 35, wherein the determining a composite image

20   comprises subtracting at least a portion of the first x-ray image from at least a portion of the second x-ray image.

39. The method of claim 35, further comprising determining a value associated with a contrast of the composite image.

40. A system for processing a x-ray image, comprising:

5   means for obtaining a first x-ray image;

means for obtaining a second x-ray image; and

means for determining a composite image based on at least a portion of the first x-ray image and at least a portion of the second x-ray image.

10 41. The system of claim 40, wherein the means for determining a composite image comprises means for subtracting at least a portion of the first x-ray image from at least a portion of the second x-ray image.

42. The system of claim 40, further comprising means for determining a value
15 associated with a contrast of the composite image.

43. A computer readable medium having a set of stored instructions, the execution of which causes a process to be performed, the process comprising:

obtaining a first x-ray image;

20   obtaining a second x-ray image; and

determining a composite image based on at least a portion of the first and second x-ray images.

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44. The computer readable medium of claim 43, wherein the first and second x-ray images are generated in a sequence.

5   45. The computer readable medium of claim 43, wherein the first and second x-ray images each contains an image of at least a portion of an animal body.

46. The computer readable medium of claim 43, wherein the determining a composite image comprises subtracting at least a portion of the first x-ray image

10 from at least a portion of the second x-ray image.

47. The computer readable medium of claim 43, wherein the process further comprising determining a value associated with a contrast of the composite image.

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